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# THE MORNING NEWS

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## US court orders Iran, others to pay \$6 billion for 9/11

NEW YORK (AFP) - A US judge formally ordered Iran, Al-Qaeda and several other defendants Wednesday to pay \$6 billion compensation to the victims of September 11, 2001, in a largely symbolic ruling.

Although Iran denies any connection to 9/11, it was included in the list of alleged culprits by the US District Court in New York, along with the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah,

Afghanistan's Taliban guerrillas and Al-Qaeda, which took credit for the massive terror attack.

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is also named.

However, the money, awarded for economic, personal and punitive damages for a total of \$6,048,513,805, is unlikely to be recovered.

Continued on pg 7



## "Smart & Sustainable" Aruba Green Energy Conference 2012 opens



Mike de Meza opens the conference

Yesterday morning, Aruba Minister of Finance, Utilities, Communication and Energy, Mike de Meza raised the curtain on the third Aruba Green Energy Conference 2012, at the Renaissance Convention Center in Oranjestad. This year's theme, "Smart & Sustainable" is meant to convey the practical nature of the speakers and topics, informing on technologies and policies that can make sustainability a reality.

In his address, Minister de Meza reiterated some of the themes and information introduced in the two previous conferences, as they relate to the present topic. He affirmed the necessity of perfecting methods for harnessing renewable energy sources, as oil reserves dwindle, as well as the need to drastically reduced CO2 emissions. Graphs indicated that the price of fuel oil has increased by 600% over the last decade.

"Everyone knows that challenges are always opportunities, as necessity is the mother of invention," he told the audience. "The biggest challenge the world is confronted with is to be sustain-

able in whatever we do; if we believe what we do today is what we need to progress in the future." 99% of the world's oil comes from 44 nations, of which 60% have long passed their peak production; The U.S. as far back as 1970.

"Sustainability can only be fueled by smart choices," asserted Minister de Meza. He acknowledged the importance of stimulating and involving island youth in progressing towards this goal. He mentioned a favorite quote of Aruba's Prime Minister. "If you want to go

quickly, go alone; but if you want to go far, go together," affirming it is a joint effort to reach the current administration's goal of Aruba being completely oil independent by 2020.

Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman came to the podium with a tribute and replaying of a speech given by President John F. Kennedy. It was a declaration that getting to the moon would take a great deal of hard work, but it would be done.

Continued on pg 2

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## Aruba Green Energy Conference 2012 opens

Continued from pg 1



Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman

"That sense of urgency expressed by this very inspiring president to conquer space... today as we look at the threats to this earth, I believe we have an obligation that transcends this need for exploration. It needs a human commitment for change of the way we do business; so I thank you for being here today, because that is the commitment to assume this responsibility...we don't have to do this because it is easy or it's hard, we have to do this, because it is necessary. This is not only a commitment to sustainable energy, but a commitment to

a sustainable society."

To the Prime Minister's satisfaction and gratification, Aruba's ambition and policies has attracted the attention of many distinguished scientists and organizations dedicated to the concepts of sustainability. This includes Professor Daniel Schrag of Harvard University and an advisor to President Obama, and Professor Dr. Wubbo J. Ockels of TU Delft, both of whom were speakers on the opening day.

Aruba's policies have resulted in endorsement of the island by the Carbon War Room and Sir Richard Bran-



Guestspeakers

son, and resulted in this year's keynote speaker, Jose Maria Figueres, Former President of Costa Rica and current president of the Carbon War Room.

The morning continued with presentations by guest speakers Prof. Schrag, Charmaine Gomes of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, (ECLAC), Hugo van Meijenfildt, Deputy Director General, Special Envoy of Climate Change, Dutch Ministry of the Environment, Holland.

Emcees for the conference are Dr. Edward Cheung of NASA and Lisa de Lannoy. The conference will continue through today and tomorrow, ending with the address by Jose Maria Figueres on Friday afternoon. A full schedule of events is on the conference website, <http://www.greenaruba.org/>. All presentations from past years, and those that will be made during the 2012 congress, are posted to the website.

By Rosalie Klein



Dr. Edward Cheung with Doina Eman, Chris Dammers and Edwin Abath



Robert Henriquez and Henk Hunning

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## Vice Admiral Matthieu Borsboom on official visit to Aruba

Aruba's Governor Fredis Re-funjol and Prime Minister Mike Eman welcomed the Commander of the Royal Dutch Navy, Vice Admiral Matthieu Borsboom, for courtesy visits and talks on Monday and Tuesday. Vice Admiral Borsboom is here making a "working visit" with his subordinate, Navy Commander for the Caribbean, General Dick Swijgman, stationed in Curaçao, who is also custodian for the regional Coast Guard.

Vice Admiral Borsboom was prominent in U.S. news of late as he paid a visit to the Joint Interagency Task Force, (JIATF) headquartered in Key West, on the maiden voyage of the first of four Holland Class vessels, the HNLMS Holland. This new class of oceangoing patrol vessels has been specifically designed to more efficiently combat illicit trafficking, drug smuggling, human trafficking, weapons smuggling and piracy.

State of the art technology allows the ship to better detect and identify small vessels likely engaged in such activities. Next year, another Hol-



**Vice Admiral Matthieu Borsboom**

land class vessel, the HNLMS Friesland, will be stationed in Dutch Caribbean waters for a coordinated effort in drug interdiction activities. This will include the ABC islands, Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao, as well as St. Maarten, St. Eustatius and Saba. The ship is also intended to be used for search and rescue, disaster assistance during major storms and evacuation of non-combatants. Dutch ships "respond

to a wide range of tasks" asserted Vice Admiral Borsboom including "maintaining the integrity of the territory... We are committed to the Caribbean, not only with the Navy, but the Coast Guard working seamlessly together." Various classes of Dutch Navy vessels are rotated regularly to maintain a presence in the region.

"We designed a class specifically for countering illicit trafficking: counter

piracy, drug smuggling and weapons smuggling," explained Vice Admiral Borsboom during an interview with THE MORNING NEWS. "We optimized the platform to do that job. We added a very sophisticated mast, where we have all the sensor systems...it has 360 degree seamless detection capability of small vessels. She will operate with Fast Raiding Interception and Special Forces Craft (FRISC) and an NH-90, a medium weight helicopter with a much enlarged endurance to the helicopters we have been operating, so far."

The Friesland will likely be stationed in the region for around four months, than replaced by another Holland class vessel, as the Dutch Navy maintains a steady presence. From here, it is likely it will patrol the Gulf of Aden, where piracy out of Somalia is a constant threat to ships and commerce. For Vice Admiral Borsboom this is a "#1 priority. We are dedicating capacity continually to fighting the piracy; we use all our efforts in that respect. We have marine fleet teams

on merchant ships for protection and we have autonomous protection detachments for World Food Program ships; they stay on them for three months, freeing our frigates to do other work. We are participating with other ships in the NATO or EU operation, sometimes both."

At this time, one-star Dutch Admiral Commodore Ben Bekkering is commanding the whole NATO effort in counter-piracy, Operation Ocean Shield, and a Dutch commander will take over the EU effort next year.

"We dedicate a lot of effort to insure free trade, 90% of which is going over the seas; if that is disrupted, the entire economy is disrupted. It is proving effective, compared to last year; we have noticeably reduced the number of hijackings, acts of piracy and the number of people taken hostage, which was reduced drastically. It still isn't over, we see piracy rising at a high rate off the west coast of Africa and other places as well..."

**Continued on pg 5**



## Ernest Giel in the spotlight with his commitment to Aruba



**Ernest Giel (R) honoring a tourist**

In the past weeks, the Aruba Tourism Authority has been featuring various local personalities whom they have chosen to highlight in their "Commitment to Aruba" tourism awareness campaign. This week, the focus is on Ernest Giel, member of the ATA team as "Visitor Care Liaison."

Ernest Giel, in an interview with our correspondent, shared something of his enthusiasm about his work as Visitor Liaison in the "Cruise and Niche" department. Giel expressed his deep satisfaction about working for ATA, and his enjoyment with his work.

Everyday that a cruise ship is in the harbor, Enty is there to extend that warm welcome to all passengers to the island. There he hands out maps of Aruba, give-a-ways and some basic information about the island. He also requests our visitors to fill out a questionnaire at the end of their visit to the island to get feedback about their experience here. ATA uses this information to help determine particular trends of visitors and to identify areas needing special attention.

One of Aruba's primary goals for being in the cruise terminal is to try and convert cruise visitors into future stay-over visitors who would spend more nights on the island.

Another important task that Mr. Giel enjoys is the loyalty program. This is the program that the government has designed to express gratitude to faithful visitors who

receive, in name of the government and the Aruban community, a lovely certificate

and Aruban pin.

These faithful visitors are named Distinguished Guests or Good Will Ambassadors in a special ceremony marking their 10th or more years of faithfully coming to the island to vacation. Good Will Ambassador designation is given to those who have been coming for as many as 20 years or more.

Mr. Giel began his career in tourism back in 1976 as a croupier/dealer at the King International Casino. He has ample experience in time-share sales, casino and now with the Cruise Tourism Authority.

On November 7th, 2012, Enty will celebrate 36 years working in the tourism industry! His commitment to Aruba is to continue promoting our tourism and to help create a secure future for tourism in Aruba for the next generations.



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## Christmas comes early for the Hord Clan of Kentucky



**Three generations of the Hord Family**

Ronald and Laura Hord of Campbellsville, Kentucky have been vacationing on Aruba every year since 1989.

"It is our favorite place in the world to just kick back and relax," they admit. It is also a favorite spot for their five progeny and spouses, and their grandchildren. All but one child honeymooned on Aruba, but their oldest grandchild, Raina and her new husband, Dustin Simpson, made up for the miss.

"I put it to the entire family a few months ago," ex-

plained Ron. "I offered them a choice. Christmas presents, or we all go together to Aruba for a week. It was no contest, and here we are, all twenty-five of us, having a wonderful time." The Hords are celebrating an early Christmas, and the first time the entire family is together on Aruba, where many of the kids feel they grew up.

The family is staying at the Casa Del Mar, where Ron purchased seven weeks of timesharing over the years, so he could often bring

friends and family. Each year, he donates a week to the University of Campbellsville, for them to auction off at their annual fundraising event. "That way, not only to I help my Alma Mater, but I also introduced someone else to how wonderful Aruba is."

Ron and the family particularly expressed their gratitude to Jacobi Lopez, General Manager of Casa Del Mar, and his staff, for their exceptional effort in eliciting trade offs and juggling rooms so the family

could obtain the required number of accommodations. Not only did they arrange the weeks needed, but also managed to group them on the same floor.

Ron appreciates how much effort that required, especially has it is a great help when collecting five children, their spouses and fifteen grandchildren of all ages, to go out to dinner. They even rent an entire bus to take them where they need to go!

**By Rosalie Klein**



## Imeldahof kids treated to Kuenta y Tambu show



Courtesy tickets to a special children's show were presented to Imeldahof Director, Natalia Hernandez, by Erik Jan Eman and Osaira Muyale of Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival. These tickets are to allow the children of Imeldahof free entrance to the special children's show that a Dutch group from Holland will be performing: Kuenta y Tambu in the Cas di Cultura.

Imeldahof was extremely pleased with the gesture and is certain that the children will be delighted and will enjoy the show very much. The Kuenta y Tambu show is sponsored by Unoca, Fonds Podiumkunsten and Prins Bernhard Cultuur Fonds. The tickets are sold at Fls.1.00 per ticket and are sold out.

Kuenta y Tambu has a cast of 5 persons who present music they call "Tambutronic."

This is music influenced by the Tambo combined with rhythmic electronic sounds.

Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival who sponsored the tickets is scheduled to take place on Friday and Saturday October 5th and 6th around the Cas di Cultura premises. Artists in the line up are, among others, Chaka Khan, Oscar de Leon, Fourplay, Randy Brecker, Pete Philly, Sven Hammond Soul, Diverse Sauzen, Reno Steba / Mike del Ferro and several local bands. Tickets are available at various establishments around the island.

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## Vice Admiral Matthieu Borsboom on official visit to Aruba...

Continued from pg 3

We must understand that once piracy is practiced, it will probably not go away. We will have to put more units and effort into containing it."

The Vice Admiral agrees that permanent solutions must come from the lands where the piracy is rampant. "Governments must make clear to the population that this is not accepted. In countries like Somalia or Yemen it is very dif-

ficult right now. The EU has a program where they will address the aspects of development and good government, but these are not quick solutions. This will take years and years, perhaps decades."

"Piracy is happening now, so our taxpayers expect if we have the means, to act on it and deal with it. The navies are to deliver security at sea and from the sea; there is insecurity there, so it is our job.

There is no Coast Guard because it is the high seas, the free seas, everybody's seas, so with a coalition of the willing, we have to deal with that, this is why I consider it a principal task. At the same time, we are there to protect the integrity, so we have to exercise that as well... We have to be ready to act on piracy, but be prepared for our other naval tasks."

By Rosalie Klein



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## Colombian president's cancer surgery successful

BOGOTA (AFP) - Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos underwent successful surgery to remove a cancerous tumor from his prostate Wednesday and he is recovering, his physicians at a Bogota hospital said in a statement.

Santos, flanked by his wife Maria Clemencia Rodriguez and their daughter Maria Antonia, told reporters as he arrived at the Santa Fe Hospital that he was upbeat and "God willing, everything will go well."

After the operation, Santos's doctors said: "It was a successful surgery, without complications. The president is conscious in his room with his family and is recovering."

Santos, 61, announced on Monday that he had prostate cancer, noting that the tumor

was small and had been caught in time, giving him a 97 percent chance of full recovery.

Urologist Felipe Gomez, who was in charge of the surgery, said before the operation that it would likely take about four hours.

Santos said that since he was to receive a local anesthetic, he would not delegate his powers as head of state.

He has said doctors have advised him not travel for a few weeks after the operation but that otherwise his overall health is not in jeopardy.

Santos is just the latest in a long line of Latin leaders to undergo cancer treatment in recent years.

In Brazil, Dilma Rousseff and her predecessor Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva both have

undergone treatment. So did Paraguay's now ex president Fernando Lugo, and Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, who is now battling for re-election October 7.

Argentina's Cristina Kirchner in late 2011 announced she had thyroid cancer and underwent surgery before later disclosing that she had been misdiagnosed.

## Dutch customs find hundreds of tarantulas in suitcase



THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch customs confiscated hundreds of poisonous tarantulas on a flight from Peru after discovering them hidden in a suitcase, officials said Wednesday.

"Customs at Schiphol airport found 200 live tarantulas and an assortment of other insects including bugs, crickets, grasshoppers and millipedes," customs officials said in a statement, issued by their umbrella Finance Ministry.

"The animals were collected by a German couple on a recent trip to Peru and were put in plastic containers and tubes hidden in their clothing and shoes," the statement said, adding that some of the tarantulas were of a type little known to science.

"Animals are regularly smuggled from other countries to the Netherlands, but never in this quantity," finance ministry spokeswoman Lindy van Galen said.

## India's poor on month-long march to Delhi

NEW DELHI (AFP) - Tens of thousands of poor Indians began a 350-kilometre (220-mile) march to New Delhi on Wednesday to protest over the plight of marginalised communities excluded from the country's development.

The gathering left the central city of Gwalior and is set to reach India's capital at the end of the month, the organising activist group Ekta Parishad (Unity Forum) said.

"Some 35,000 people have started off from Gwalior and by the time they reach New Delhi we expect the number to swell to 100,000," Parishad spokesman Aneesh Thillenkery told AFP.

Organisers said the group came from across India and included casual labourers, small farmers, fishermen, itinerant workers and the unemployed.

"Our plan is to cover 27 kilometres on the first day of the march," Thillenkery said. "In all, we will walk through five states and we will follow national highways where we will eat, rest and sleep."

The trek is the second since 2007 when 25,000 poor and debt-ridden farmers travelled the same route on foot to press for land rights.

The clash between India's

industrial expansion and its agricultural communities has become a test of how the government deals with the development that is transforming Asia's third largest economy.

"We demand that agriculture land must be used exclusively for farming," Thillenkery said.

Some 73 percent of India's billion-plus population live off the land, but major industrial projects -- seen as vital by the government to create jobs -- are frequently delayed or even abandoned due to land acquisition problems.

India's economy has boomed in the last 20 years since liberalisation reforms in 1991, leading to the perception of a "shining" country emerging from decades of poverty.

Foreign companies and India's powerful conglomerates have invested heavily, selling vast quantities of cars, luxury goods and Western lifestyle products to the growing middle classes.

But a survey by a non-government organisation in January found 42 percent of children under five were underweight, which Prime Minister Manmohan Singh described as a "national shame".

## Turkey hits Syria after deadly shelling

ANKARA (AFP) - Turkey shelled Syria in retaliation for deadly cross-border fire Wednesday as NATO convened an emergency meeting on the attack that threatened to inflame tensions in the volatile region.

Earlier on Wednesday Syrian shells crashed into a Turkish border town, killing five people, the first time Turkey's citizens were killed by cross-border fire from its war-torn neighbour.

An outraged Ankara said the attack went "too far", and it swiftly retaliated.

"Our armed forces in the border region immediately retaliated against this heinous attack... by shelling targets spotted by radar," Turkey's prime minister's office said in a statement.


"Turkey will never leave unanswered such provocations by the Syrian regime targeting our national security, in line with engagement rules and international law."

The Syrian shelling was condemned by the United States, which said it was "outraged" by the attack, while UN chief Ban Ki-moon told Damascus to respect its neighbours' sovereignty.

NATO in an emergency meeting Wednesday backed Turkey and called on Syria to respect international law after a Syrian shell hit a border town, killing five Turkish nationals and sparking retaliatory strikes.

"The Alliance continues to stand by Turkey and demands the immediate cessation of such aggressive acts against an Ally and urges the Syrian regime to end flagrant violations of international law," a NATO statement said after the meeting was called at member Ankara's request.

The alliance said Syria's "recent aggressive acts at NATO's southeastern border" were a "flagrant breach of international law and a clear and present danger" to an ally.



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## International News

# Cuba keeps fingers crossed for Chavez victory



Hugo Chavez

HAVANA (AFP) - Hugo Chavez is Cuba's indispensable favorite in Venezuela's presidential ballot this weekend, with the rulers of the communist island aware their survival could ride on the firebrand leader's re-election.

Headlines in the Cuban press proclaim a Chavez victory "irreversible," but many citizens have followed the campaign through fear that his defeat would plunge Cuba back into the dark days that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s.

For 12 years, Venezuela has supported Cuba with Chavez providing the Castro regime with cheap oil.

Havana's ally also takes in 40,000 Cuban professionals, particularly in healthcare, a vital source of financial support.

Whether they agree with Chavez or not, Cubans know that a victory by Venezuelan opposition candidate Henrique Capriles on October 7 "would cut the umbilical cord," Cuban dissident economist Oscar Espinosa Chepe told AFP.

"The moribund Cuban economy is staying afloat with Venezuelan aid. If that umbilical cord is cut, it would be a disaster," said the former political prisoner.

Exporting professionals

Venezuela provides Cuba with about two-thirds of its energy needs, according to Jorge Pinon, a Cuba expert at the Center for Hemispheric Policy at the University of Miami.

"Cuba currently consumes approximately 147,000 barrels of oil a day and produces approximately 50,000 barrels of crude oil a day, which means a deficit of about 100,000 barrels a day, supplied by Venezuela," he said in a report on Cuba's energy future.

Additionally, the Venezuelan state oil giant PDVSA is actively involved in offshore oil exploration in Cuban waters in the Gulf of Mexico, albeit without success for the moment.

Exports of Cuban professionals to Venezuela brings in about \$6 billion a year, more than the island's two other sources of hard currency -- tourism and remittances from Cubans living abroad, which each bring in \$2.5 billion.

Venezuela is Cuba's leading trade partner with annual transactions valued at \$6 billion, three quarters of it in Caracas' favor.

The cooperation touches a wide variety of sectors of the economy, with \$1.6 billion invested in 47 projects in agriculture, education and health so far this year.

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UNITED STATES, Washington : Christina Aguilera, the United Nations World Food Program Ambassador Against Hunger (L), Yum! Brands Chairman David Novak (R) and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton pose for a photo in which The George McGovern Leadership Awards were given to Aguilera and Novak, for their help fighting global hunger, on October 3, 2012, at the US Department of State in Washington, DC. Yum! and its global spokesperson for the campaign, Aguilera, have raised nearly \$115 million for the United Nations World Food Program and other hunger relief organization since 2007.

## US court orders Iran, others to pay \$6 billion for 9/11

Continued from pg 1

Iran is in a tense standoff with the United States over multiple issues, especially its nuclear industry and alleged plan to build an atomic weapon. Iranian-backed Hezbollah has no relations with the United States.

Al-Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden, who is also named, was killed by US Navy SEALs in a raid inside Pakistan in 2011. The Taliban are in an active war with US-led troops across Afghanistan.

The ruling caps a series of court decisions prompted by lawsuits filed by families of 47 victims from among the nearly 3,000 killed on 9/11.

Last year, Judge George

Daniels signed a judgment in favor of the plaintiffs. A magistrate then calculated the recommended compensation, which Daniels on Wednesday approved in his ruling.

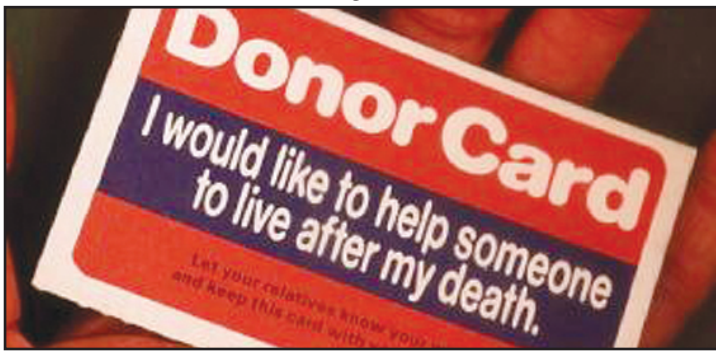
Bin Laden and Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for the attacks, in which hijacked airliners were used to bring down the World Trade Center towers in New York and to crash into the Pentagon near Washington, DC.

The Taliban ruled Afghanistan at the time and were giving shelter to Al-Qaeda. Iran was blamed by the US court partly because some of the hijackers passed through the country on their way to carrying out the attacks.



## Health & Living

# Spain tops table for organ-donations: study



MADRID (AFP) - Spain provided a record number of donors of bodily organs in 2011 as the number of transplants in Europe rose, the health ministry said.

In Spain there were 35 donors per million inhabitants, while the number of

transplants performed in Europe passed 30,000 for the first time, it said.

There were a total 106,879 transplants recorded in the world -- three percent higher than the previous year, said the ministry, whose National

Transplant Organisation runs a worldwide survey of transplants.

Spain had the highest proportion of donors in any country, followed by Portugal, the United States and France. Spain recorded 1,667 donors -- nearly 12 percent more than in 2010.

Spain "has for 20 years been the world leader in organ donations and transplants because the Spanish model is highly professionalised," a spokesman for the ministry told AFP.

The study showed that in 2011 more than 63,000 people in Europe were on the waiting list for a transplant but only 48 percent of requirements were met.

## Beware of dietary supplement's false claims

- A new report by the U.S. Department of Health Services has found that dozens of dietary supplements on the market are illegally labeled and lack the recommended scientific evidence to back up their purported health claims.

For the study, the Inspector General's office analyzed 127 weight loss and immune-boosting supplements that investigators purchased online or in retail stores across the country. Of these, they found that 20 percent made illegal

claims on their labels stating that they could be used to cure or treat certain diseases. Dozens also lacked the recommended scientific evidence to back up the claims made on the labels.

The report, which was released yesterday, found that 7% of the pills looked at didn't have an FDA-required warning that states that the claims had not been evaluated by the agency, and a full 20% of weight loss and immunity-boosting supplements made

false and illegal claims.

Many of the companies who were found to be making false claims didn't even bother to offer any kind of information to back them up.

The report didn't name individual brands or products.

In response, the FDA has called for expanded surveillance of the market to better protect consumers against false claims that supplements can cure or treat specific diseases.



### Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday  
12:00 - 3 p.m.

### Dinner

Monday - Sunday  
6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

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## Morocco says to bar Dutch abortion ship

RABAT (AFP) - Morocco's government said the Dutch "abortion boat," due to arrive on today in the first such trip to a Muslim country, is not authorised to act and must be prevented from doing so.

Women on Waves, the Dutch group organising the trip, said earlier that the ship, which is equipped to provide women with the medication needed for "safe legal medical abortions" up to six and a half weeks into pregnancy, would arrive this afternoon.

It was due to land at Smir, on Morocco's Mediterranean coast, some 40 kilometres (25 miles) east of Tangier.

In the first official response to the planned visit, the health ministry on Wednesday urged the relevant authorities to prevent the visit from taking place.

"The ministry of health... has never been informed of

this event and has not authorised any non-resident party or doctor in Morocco to carry out this medical intervention," it said in a statement.

"The ministry calls on the relevant authorities to do what it is necessary to ensure that the law is applied," it added.

Moroccan law prohibits abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger.

Women on Waves said the purpose of the visit was to provide abortions to women that might otherwise be exposed to grave health risks, and planned to set up a hotline to inform women about how to induce medical abortions safely at home.

Doctor Rebecca Gomperts, the Dutch group's founder, told AFP that around 600 to 800 Moroccan women have an abortion every day.



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BANGKOK, Thailand : Bangladeshi monks studying Buddhism in Thailand display signs and pictures of destruction in their country as they hold a demonstration calling for an end to attacks against Buddhist communities in Bangladesh, in front of the United Nations regional office in Bangkok on October 3, 2012. Muslim mobs attacked temples and houses on September 29-30 in southeastern Bangladesh after claims that a young Buddhist man had posted Facebook photos defaming Koran, in what Buddhist leaders described as the worst violence against the community since independence.

AFP PHOTO



## Sci-Tech

# US blocks online fraud schemes linked to India



WASHINGTON (AFP) - US officials said Wednesday they shut down a series of so-called tech support scams, mostly operating from India, which duped consumers into paying to clean their computers of bogus virus infections.

The Federal Trade Commission said a US judge has ordered a halt to six "scareware" operations and has frozen their assets following an investigation in cooperation with Canada, Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

FTC Chairman Jon Leibowitz said the schemes in-

involved calls to consumers in English-speaking countries from call centers in India, informing consumers of bogus infections.

The groups also used online ads which informed computer users of the infections, and then sold "fixes" at prices ranging from \$49 to \$450.

"In these outrageous and disturbing cons you get a call from someone pretending to be from a major computer company who dupes you into thinking you have a virus on your computer," Leibowitz told a news conference, which

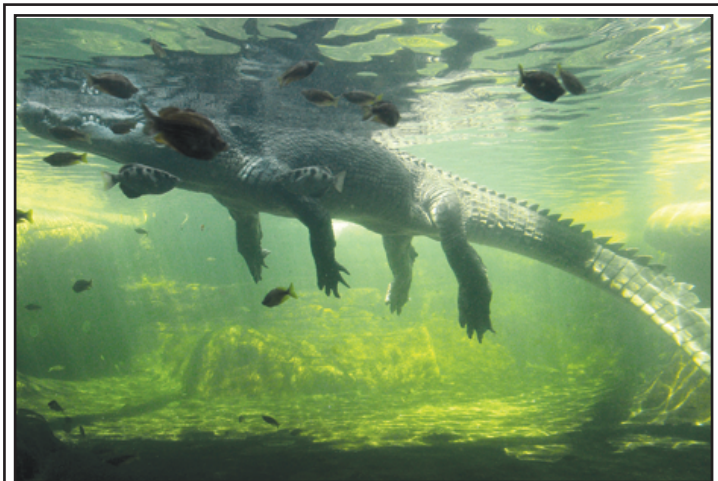
also played an audio tape of one of the calls.

The FTC six firms with deceptive commercial practices and other violations and asked the court to permanently halt the scams and order restitution for consumers.

The FTC cases targeted 14 corporate defendants and 17 individuals in six separate legal filings. The companies included Pecon Software Ltd., Finmaestros LLC, Zeal IT Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Virtual PC Solutions, Lakshmi Infosoul Services Pvt. Ltd., and PC-Care247, Inc.

Canada's top telecom regulatory official, Andrea Rosen of the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission, said two related enforcement actions were filed in Canada.

Leibowitz said the FTC was sending a delegation to India to help work with authorities in such cases.



**SYDNEY :** A 700 kilogram crocodile called Rex - who is one of the world's largest crocodiles - cruises around his enclosure after receiving his first feed after emerging from three months of hibernation at WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo on October 3, 2012. Throughout winter, it is common for crocodiles to enter a period of inactivity where they survive on their existing energy stores inside their body but once the weather starts warming up, so does their appetite - to indicate their need to replenish their energy. Rex, who has been a resident of WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo since 2009, was a so-called 'rogue' crocodile who was captured and placed into a crocodile farm near Darwin in the Northern Territory when his taste for local pet dogs drew him too close to the human population.

AFP PHOTO

## UN sustainable energy office to be based in Vienna

VIENNA (AFP) - The United Nations is to set up its sustainable energy office in Vienna, Austria's environment minister Nikolaus Berlakovich said Wednesday.

"Austria will be the UN's headquarter for renewable energy," Berlakovich said in a statement, adding that this shows Austria's role as a "world leader in terms of renewable energy".

The office will be home to UN secretary-general Ban Ki-moon's initiative "Sustainable Energy for All", which was launched in September 2011 with the aim of boosting renewable energy and improving energy efficiency.

Last week, Ban named the director-general of the UN's Vienna-based Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Kandeh Yumkella, as the initiative's special representative.

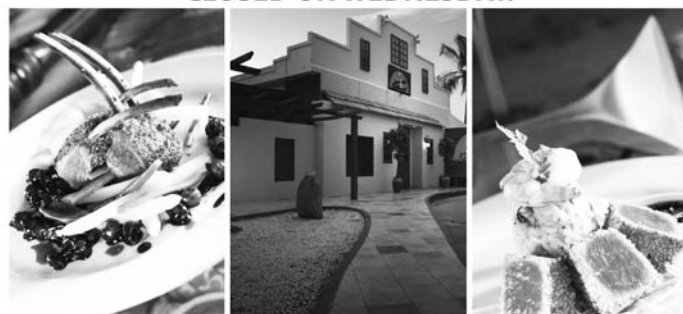
Vienna, one of the UN's four main centres, is also home to the organisation's Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and its nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).



Opening Hours: 5:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Tel: 297-5878140

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**BANGKOK, Thailand :** Customs officers inspect a seized Ferrari during a press conference at the Thai Customs department in Bangkok on October 3, 2012. The Thai Customs Department seized goods smuggled into the country, including a Ferrari, with a value of 50 million bahts (1.67 million USD).

AFP PHOTO

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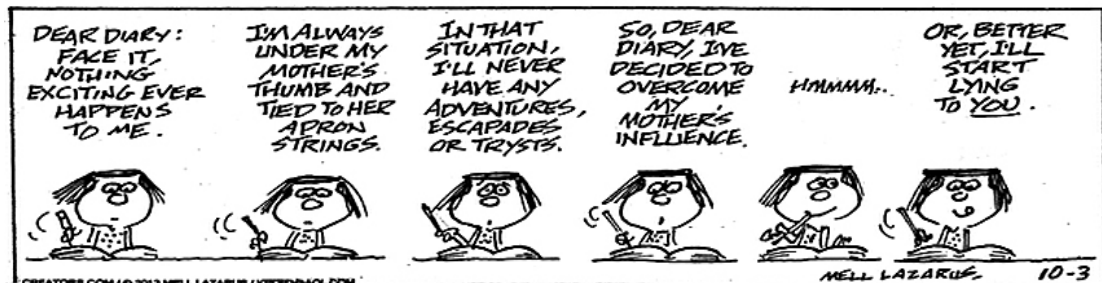


## COMICS

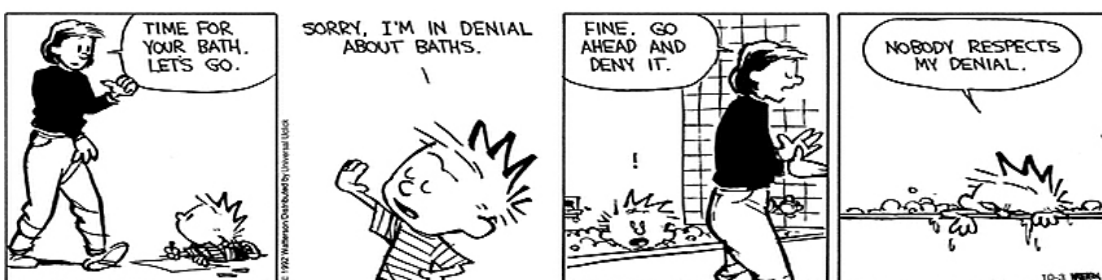
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



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## PRODUCE DEPARTMENT

## ACROSS

1. High \_\_\_\_
5. Director Weir ("The Truman Show")
10. Cabinet dept.
13. Mesabi Range products
14. Ascended
15. English trolley
17. It might hold a scoop of cottage cheese
19. Gutter locale
20. Money earned on money
21. Emulated a Christmas lord
23. Perry and Della's creator
24. Future perfect, e.g.
25. Abash
28. Big chunk of a toddler's song
31. "The Moffatts" author
32. John Bull's paisanos
33. Destination for Fred and Ginger
34. Receiver attachment
35. Bears' bunks
36. Math problems
37. \_\_\_\_ Slow Boat to China
38. Distributed
39. "Church bells will \_\_\_\_"
40. Works on the second draft
42. Ladders' counterparts in a kids' game
43. Rush and Heart, e.g.
44. Converse online
45. Presley's "In the \_\_\_\_"
47. Blowing a fuse
51. Hair-splitting thing

## DOWN

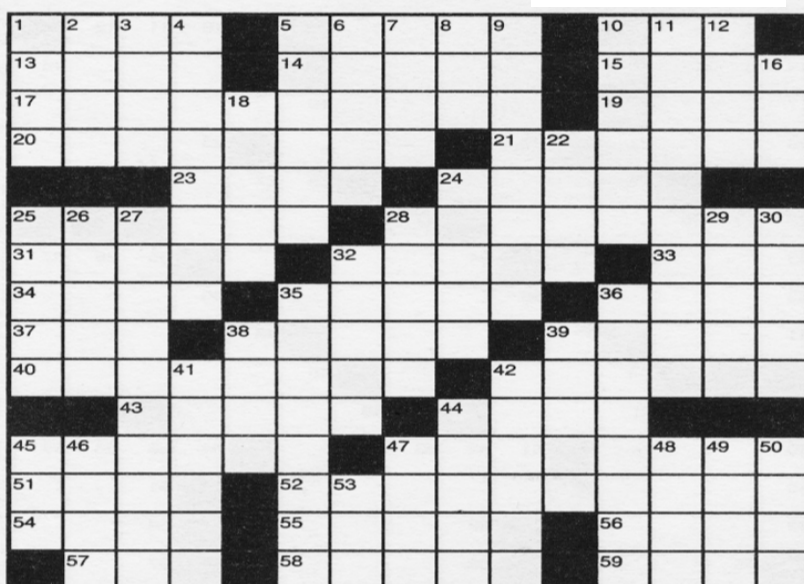
52. Drippy dessert at a picnic
54. Vague emanation
55. Gallows knot
56. Oscar-Emmy-Grammy winner
57. Thesaurus ent.
58. Strips of wood
59. Rush hour commuter's hope
1. Central points
2. "\_\_\_\_ All the Way Home"
3. Express
4. Respected
5. "Alone and \_\_\_\_ loitering" (Keats)
6. Notched
7. Racetrack tipster
8. Psychic ability: abbr.

## ACROSS

9. Appoints again
10. Drill sergeant's command
11. Grove product
12. Praise enthusiastically
16. Club \_\_\_\_ (resort chain)
18. Theater backdrop
22. Loose and tight
24. Sporty auto, informally
25. Contribution to ambiance
26. "This \_\_\_\_ for the books"
27. Good source of folic acid
28. April Fool's sign
29. "\_\_\_\_ Shelter" (1970 music film)
30. Fire equipment
32. Norman

## DOWN

35. Disappointments
36. Windstorm bangers
38. Julep flavor
39. Talisman
41. Material for porch furniture
42. Taking out the trash et al.
44. Spot for a military medal
45. Student's concern: abbr.
46. Frau's abode
47. Greek porch
48. "Would \_\_\_\_ to you?"
49. \_\_\_\_ bene
50. Tiny fly
53. Internet access provider: abbr.



## BOTICA

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Numbers

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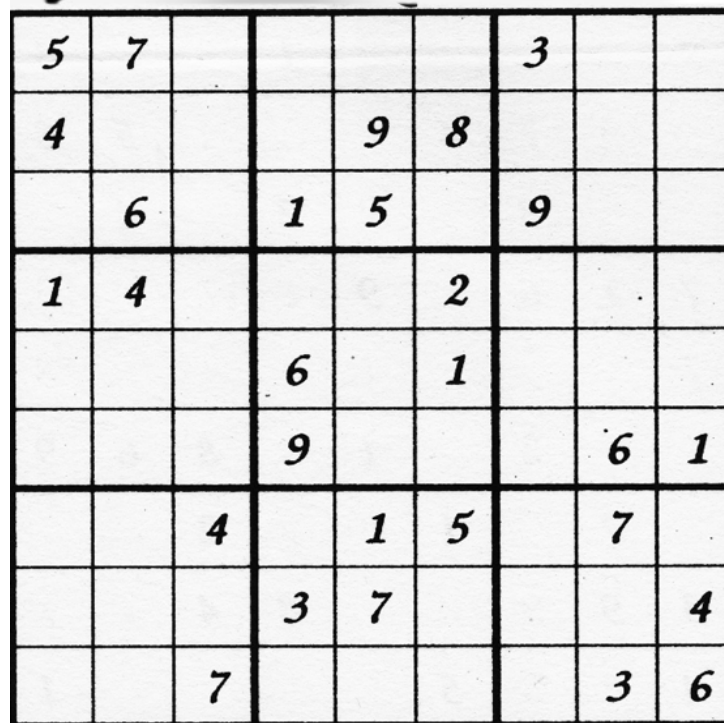
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## Sudoku



## SOLUTION

9	5	1	6	2	7	4	5	8
4	5	8	9	1	2	6	7	3
6	2	3	5	1	8	7	4	9
1	9	5	2	7	6	3	8	4
2	8	7	1	4	9	5	6	3
5	6	2	8	3	5	9	4	1
4	7	6	5	1	8	9	2	3
5	2	9	8	6	4	1	7	3
8	1	4	7	9	2	6	3	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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## Finance

### China becomes world's biggest importer of armagnac

TOULOUSE, France (AFP) - China has displaced Britain as the world's biggest importer of armagnac following a spectacular surge in sales of the upmarket brandy produced in southwestern France.

The BNIA, an organisation that represents armagnac producers, said Wednesday that sales to China had increased from 125 hectolitres of pure alcohol in 2010 to 935 hectolitres last year.

Sales to Hong Kong nearly doubled, from 292hl in 2010 to 505hl in 2011.

Britain, with 600hl of imports in 2011, remains the second biggest consumer but is set to be overtaken by Russia this year.

BNIA President Rierre Tabarin attributed the growing demand from China to declining consumption of rice wine and to the growth of a new middle class for whom upmarket French products are a status symbol.

Tabarin added that the Chinese market was expanding at an even faster rate in value terms because of the high demand for vintage and rare bottles of armagnac.

### IMF head warns eurozone to act fast on debt crisis

PARIS (AFP) - IMF head Christine Lagarde urged eurozone leaders Wednesday to move fast to resolve the bloc's debt crisis, warning in an interview that the latest boost to markets by an ECB decision could soon wear off.

"No one has the luxury of time, this is really urgent," Lagarde told the French daily Figaro in comments to appear on Thursday.

She said a decision by the European Central Bank to buy debt issued by struggling eurozone governments was "fundamental," and warned that political leaders must "not let the effects of this measure wear off."

In early September, ECB President Mario Draghi vowed to aid countries like Spain by buying unlimited volumes of bonds to drive down borrowing costs.

The news sent markets soaring as investors saw a turning point in the crisis.

But Spain must first ask eurozone partners formally for financial aid, a move that Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said on Tuesday was not imminent.

Financial markets have reacted negatively to uncertainty fueled by the Spanish

premier's remark.

Lagarde told Figaro: "The cost of solutions increases as time passes," and added: "The more Europeans act fast at the national level, the more the dynamic can change."

### De Beers taps new chairman, ending long dynasty

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - The world's leading diamond company De Beers appointed Anglo-American CEO Cynthia Carroll as its new chairman Wednesday, spelling the symbolic end of one of the corporate world's longest-running dynasties.

Carroll replaced chairman Nicky Oppenheimer, who stepped down in August when his family sold its stake, giving Anglo American

a 85 percent control of the storied, and sometimes controversial firm.

De Beers, founded in 1888 by Cecil Rhodes, has been

run by Oppenheimer family members or trusted associates since the late 1920s.

The Botswana government owns the remaining 15 percent of the company.

"I look forward to leading the board and continuing to support the management of the world's leading diamond company," Carroll said in a statement.

Carroll is currently Chief Executive of Anglo American, one of the world's largest mining companies.



Current as 10/04/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	0.98	1.00	1.002
Canada	CAD	1.780	1.800	1.820
Britain	GBP	2.800	2.850	2.910
Switzerland	CHF	1.8971	1.9043	1.9123
Netherlands	EUR	2.2775	2.2983	2.3214
Sweden	SEK	0.2571	0.2643	0.2723
Denmark	DKK	0.2986	0.3058	0.3138
Norway	NOK	0.3005	0.3077	0.3157
Japan	JPY	225.27	227.33	229.61

(per 100,000)

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### Glum Chinese data sinks oil prices

NEW YORK (AFP) - US oil prices dropped more than four percent Wednesday, hit by glum data on China's services sector and lowered forecasts for Asian growth.

Despite a fall in US crude stockpiles, which normally would push prices higher, New York-traded West Texas Intermediate crude for November delivery sank to \$88.14 a barrel, a loss of 3.75 from Tuesday.

In London, Brent North Sea crude for delivery in November fell \$3.40 to stand at \$108.17 a barrel in late London deals.

Sellers piled in to the market after the purchasing managers index for China's services sector sank to its lowest level in nearly two years,

echoing the dismal reading on its manufacturing PMI that showed the sector contracting a second straight month.

Both readings signaled a slowing Chinese economy unlikely to buy as much oil on world markets as has been expected.

In Europe, data on Wednesday showed eurozone private sector business activity remained firmly stuck in the doldrums in September, with the key services sector suffering a very sharp fall.

"The petroleum markets are under selling pressure in Wednesday trade on an apparent wave of long liquidation after China's service sector PMI disappointed and the Asian Development Bank cut its GDP growth forecast for emerging Asia," said Timothy Evans at Citi Futures.

### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

STAR	FATS	WON
PARMA	ALOE	MILO
ELIOT	RILL	EDIT
RAMSHACKLE	LOVE	
	EPEE	CROWD
ATTIRE	STUD	
BERG	SALE	TROVE
IRANI	PIN	HADES
TIMON	SETH	MOST
	RIPE	ECARTE
PALATE	TAIL	
EDAM	PROGRAMMER	
TUTU	PIKE	MOOSE
ALES	EDEN	PLATE
LTR	RENT	SETA

### Petrobras close to sale of \$6bn Gulf of Mexico assets: report

PARIS (AFP) - Brazil's state-owned energy giant Petrobras is close to selling most of its assets in the Gulf of Mexico worth up to \$6 billion to reduce debt, the company's chief executive told the Financial Times on Wednesday. Chief executive Maria das Gracas Foster said that company planned to complete the sale by early next year of up to \$6 billion (4.6 billion euros) of its \$8 billion exploration assets in the Gulf of Mexico, as the company enacts a cost-cutting programme and seeks to raise \$14.5 billion via asset sales.



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Restaurant

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Chocolate  
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## This upcoming weekend! Celebrate World Animal Day during the Yeegah! Party at Philip's Animal Garden



Alto Vista 116 – World Animal Day is recognized every year on the 4th of October, when people everywhere celebrate and honor the many furry, feathered, scaly and hairy animals that we share this world with. Becoming a yearly tradition, Philip's Animal Garden, located at Alto Vista 116, will once again be offering a great way to celebrate this special day. This weekend, on Saturday, October 6th, and Sunday, October

7th, the animal sanctuary and rehabilitation center will host its popular Yeegah! Party. During these two days, visitors will have the chance to get up close and personal with over 60 different species of animals that call Philip's Animal Garden their home. They'll even have the chance to feed some of the animals. There will also be a number of special activities for kids, free of charge, such as pony rides, face painting, a bouncy castle and popular games.

Everyone is invited to come and meet the new animals, including camels and alpacas, as well as a whole bunch of newborn animals.



7th, the animal sanctuary and rehabilitation center will host

its popular Yeegah! Party. During these two days, vis-

You'll also be able to check out the first complete ocelot habitat in the Caribbean!

The entrance fee for the "Yeegah" party will be only 3 Florins per person, and all money raised during the event will go to the care of the animals and the maintenance of the sanctuary, which is now bigger than it has ever been. Naturally, the bar and kitchen will be well stocked, also serving a full BBQ.

See you the weekend of October 6th and 7th at Philip's Animal Garden!

by Annalisa Gesterkamp

## ABBA museum to open in Stockholm



Bjorn Kristian Ulvaeus, former member of the Swedish music group ABBA, poses on October 3, 2012 in Stockholm after a press conference announcing about the new ABBA Museum, set to open next year in Stockholm. ABBA's collected works will be showcased in a contemporary, interactive setting at Swedish Hall of Fame, a new exhibit venue located at Djurgarden, Stockholm.

AFP PHOTO



LONDON : Madame Tussauds waxwork models of Swedish pop group Abba are displayed at a roller disco in the Renaissance Room in London on October 2, 2012. The wax models of Agnetha, Anni-Frid, Benny and Bjorn were dressed in replica outfits worn in their 1975 hit "SOS". The figures will take up residence in the London attraction before going on a world tour including Vienna, Berlin, Amsterdam and Blackpool. Each figure cost GBP 150,000 (187,666 Euros) and took four months to create. They will take up their position in the Music Zone of Madame Tussauds London alongside Michael Jackson and The Beatles.

AFP PHOTO



## Spend a fun evening with friends at Barney's



A place where you feel like you are with friends

A few months ago, Palm Beach welcomed a cozy new place that offers good food, great prices and a uniquely warm, welcoming ambiance that makes patrons feel as if they are visiting with friends rather than just eating out. Even the name, "Barney's", which was inspired by Barney Rubble of the Flintstones, is an expression of the good humor of its owners and your hosts, Ron and Elina.

Ron and Elina have a very congenial division of labor; he enjoys being bartender and playing around with his "cocktail of the day" while she sees to it that everyone is well satisfied with their meal. Chef Jan is in the kitchen doing his magic; patrons praise their spicy Firecracker Shrimp appetizer and mush-



Mojito anyone?

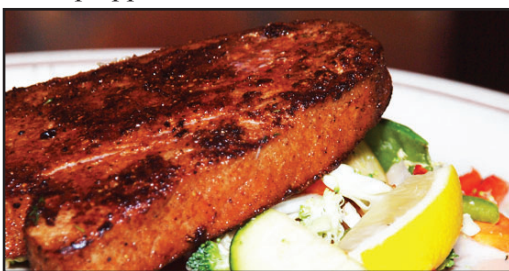
Own Barney Burger" using specially imported organic beef from Holland, guaranteed to have been raised without steroids or antibiotics, only \$9.50 with fries and coleslaw. Patrons are handed a special hamburger checklist, which features a full menu of toppings, sauces and cheeses to customize your order to create the ideal burger. One can also opt for a second or third hamburger patty for a very nominal cost.

High end items on the menu, such as the Seafood Pasta, are only \$20.50. They also have a kid's menu with favorites such as a Kid's Burger, chicken fingers and Mac & Cheese; most items are only \$4. One regular described the place as particu-

larly "kid-friendly," with Elina, a mother herself, having devised a number of methods to keep young ones entertained. The menu has a range to please patrons who are in the mood for something simple while other can be indulgent gourmands.

Tuesday through Saturday evenings they have specialty nights at bargain rates. Tuesday is Schnitzel Night, with a choice of chicken or pork schnitzel prepared any of five ways, a platter with salad and side dish is \$17.50. Wednesday is "All you can eat grouper, prepared any of five ways, with veggies and side dish, \$19.50. Thursday they do it again with unlimited ribs done three ways for \$17.50 with salad, slaw and fries, Saturday means endless rib eye steak with salad and fries for \$19.50. Friday evening ends the work week with Karaoke Night, a convivial and fun evening when islanders kick back and let loose their inner rock star.

Barney's is located just next to the huge supermarket on the Palm Beach/Noord road, not far from the gas station. They are open from 5:00 to 11:00 PM and closed on Mondays. Check out their full menu at <http://www.barneysaruba.com> or call 586-5420 for reservations and directions.



Tuna Steak a la Chef

rooms stuffed with escargot, priced at \$9.50 and \$8.50, or the Smoked Trout Fillet for a real gourmet treat.

They are particularly popular for their "Build Your

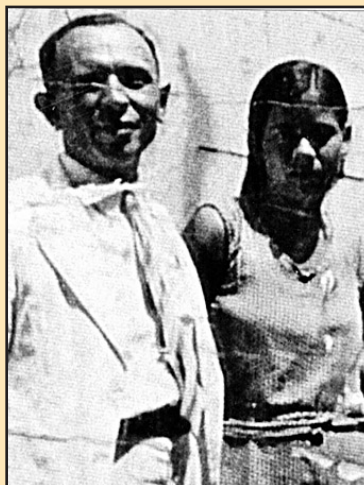


Your hosts Ron & Elina await you



Thumbs up for Firecracker Shrimp

## La Linda Department Store-where Aruba shops!



Calman and Anna Hochman

Though Aruba has its share of designer brand stores and shopping malls, ask almost any islander where they shop, and they will likely tell you

huge fabrics and notions department, the first destination for many on an island where making your own clothes is still an everyday practice. Without question, the store offers the greatest diversity of selection in nearly every department, and they have now consolidated them all into one store; four floors containing a wealth of choices in clothing for men, women and children, house wares, bedding, sporting goods, luggage, shoes, jewelry, decorative items and more.

"The present store is a work in progress," asserts Jalme, as they continue to renovate and enlarge what had been only the men's store and



Unique, quality goods in all departments

"La Linda." Spread out over several specialty stores on the Caya Betico Croes, La Linda was Aruba's first and foremost department stores, where, for decades, one could find anything and everything, and after more than 70 years, still can make that claim.

It is also a distinctly family operation, with the personal touch and supervision of the Hochmans, who take their reputation for stocking "the best quality for the best price" very seriously. It all started with Calman Hochman, a Jewish Polish immigrant who opened his first small shop with his Aruban wife Anna, carrying "a little bit of everything that anyone could need." This was before WWII, when the present head of the company, Jaime, hadn't even been born yet. Many of their sales help have also been with the store for over two decades, and "it is very much like family here," he admits. Their loyal patrons also look forward to being helped by shop girls who have become friends, knowing they will get great and honest service.

To this day, La Linda is particularly known for its

warehouse in the past. Normally closed for a 2 hour lunch/siesta in the old island way, shoppers will soon find it open daily for the entire day, from 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM, as they are on Saturday's, with a bright, charming eatery installed on the top floor.

La Linda is continually expanding their inventory, with their acquisitions department continually seeking out interesting, unique, and moderately priced goods from all over the world, always with an eye towards quality. They pay particular attention to their Women's Department specializing in over-sized garments, stocking larger sizes exhibiting distinctive dash and style.

For travelers who have perhaps lost their luggage, they can offer a quick fix for all the family which won't break your budget, including some very stylish new suitcases.

A visit to La Linda and perusal of their interesting collection will make anyone understand why it has remained successful all these decades, and is still Aruba's favorite place to shop!



## SPORTS

# Cricket: Spin kings set for battle royale



Pakistan cricketers stretch during an ICC Twenty20 Cricket World Cup practise session ahead of their semi-final match

COLOMBO (AFP) - Former champions Pakistan and hosts Sri Lanka clash in the first semi-final of the World Twenty20 in Colombo today, banking on the quality spinners in the two camps.

The pre-match focus revolved around Sri Lanka's unorthodox spinner Ajantha

Mendis and Pakistan's prolific Saeed Ajmal, both of whom have been the highest wicket-takers for their respective teams in the competition.

While Mendis has taken nine wickets, Ajmal has eight.

Mendis achieved the best figures in Twenty20 internationals with six wickets for

eight against Zimbabwe in the preliminary league and remains the trumpcard for the hosts despite conceding 40 runs in four overs against England in Super Eights.

Pakistan had 18 overs of spin during their 32-run win over Australia on Tuesday as Ajmal was ably supported by Shahid Afridi, 20-year-old left-arm Raza Hasan and skipper Mohammad Hafeez.

Sri Lanka has the added bonus of sling-arm fast bowler Lasith Malinga, who grabbed a career best 5-31 against England and remains one of the most destructive wicket-takers in the game.

Sri Lankan captain Mahela Jayawardene said he was confident about his team reacting well to Pakistan's challenge.

The semi-final is a repeat of the 2009 final in England when Pakistan beat Sri Lanka at Lord's to win the title.

## Football: Every Euro game now a cup final, says Bayern boss



MUNICH (AFP) - Bayern Munich coach Jupp Heynckes has insisted they must now treat every Champions League match as if it were the final in the wake of their shock defeat at BATE Borisov.

Bayern lost 3-1 in Minsk on Tuesday to leave them third in Group F after two games with their next European game at Lille, France, on October 23.

It was a first defeat for the Bavarians in 10 games this season and was also their first since losing the Champions

League final at home to Chelsea on penalties in May.

After Bayern's director of sport Matthias Sammer criticised the team for a lacklustre performance in Saturday's 2-0 Bundesliga win at Werder Bremen there appears to be tension between him and the coach.

Heynckes said he left Germany star Bastian Schweinsteiger out of the starting team in Minsk because he was showing signs of fatigue in Bremen.

Although his team have won all six Bundesliga games so far to top the domestic table, Heynckes is bracing himself for a backlash if Bayern fail to win their next league game at home to Hoffenheim on Saturday.

## Football: Finance police raid Napoli

MILAN (AFP) - Serie A club Napoli came under scrutiny on Wednesday after the country's Finance Police raided the club in relation to suspicions of financial foul play, media reports said.

According to the domestic ANSA news agency, police, who took away a number of documents from the club, were acting on a mandate from the public prosecutor in Naples.

Reports said the documents seized are in relation to an investigation into the purchase and sale of rights on the performances of team players, the relationship with player agents and any related financial movements.

Police also carried out searches at the offices of the Italian football federation (FIGC) in Rome.

The police raids are the latest in Italian football, which has been dogged in recent years by claims of match-fixing and illegal betting.

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**WESTERLAND** :The Polish windsurfer Maciek Rutkowski (up) surfs on North Sea waves at the coast of Sylt, Germany yesterday. The World Cup ends on October 7, 2012.  
 AFP PHOTO





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## Nationals earn NL's top seed with 5-1 win over Phillies, will face winner of Braves-Cardinals

With a 5-1 win over the Philadelphia Phillies yesterday, the Nationals locked up the top overall seed in the National League and finish with a record of 98-64.

The Nationals, the NL East champions, will face the winner of Friday's one game wild card between the Atlanta Braves and St. Louis Cardinals. The opening game of the Nationals' divi-



The Nationals fans celebrating

sion round will be Sunday on the road. Game 2 will be held on Monday. And the Nationals will host Games 3 through 5 from Wednesday through Friday.

The Reds, the second seed, will play the San Francisco Giants, the third seed, begin-

ning on Saturday.

Edwin Jackson pitched 6 2/3 strong innings against the Phillies, striking out six and allowing only one run, to earn his 10th win of the season. Ryan Zimmerman, Tyler Moore and Michael Morse all homered.

## Wallace Ends Retirement to Join Knicks



Rasheed Wallace signed a one-year deal for the league minimum, about \$1.7 million with the Knicks yesterday, after completed his physical on Monday. Ending his two-year retirement, and as a result of adding Wallace to the roster, the Knicks completed their off-season of becoming the oldest team in the N.B.A. Wallace last played for Boston in 2009-10, averaging career lows of 9.0 points, 4.1 rebounds and 1.0 assists over 22.5 minutes in 79 regular season games (13 starts) and 6.1 points and 3.0 rebounds over 17.1 minutes in 24 postseason games (one start).

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## Real Madrid sink Ajax



AMSTERDAM AFP) - Cristiano Ronaldo was in treble form as Real Madrid tuned up for this weekend's Clasico with a stylish 4-1 win at Ajax here on Wednesday to maintain their perfect start to the fledgling Champions League campaign.

Ronaldo, who had bagged the late winner in the Spanish champions' opening Group D win over Manchester City, was joined on the score-sheet by Karim Benzema, with Ajax's lone strike coming from Niklas Moisander.

The scoreline would have been even more lopsided but for a series of fine saves by Ajax's goalkeeper, Kenneth Vermeer.

In front of a near-capacity 50,000 crowd, Madrid were quick out of the starting blocks, winning a series of corners in the first 10 minutes but failing to capitalise on their early dominance.

Beaten Champions League semi-finalists in the past two seasons, Madrid now top the group by two points from Borussia Dortmund and will go into Sunday's clash against arch rivals and La Liga leaders Barcelona with a spring in their step.

The victory consolidated Madrid's lead at the top of the group with six points from two matches, as they bid to win for the 10th time a title that has eluded them since 2002. Ajax, coached by the former Holland international Frank de Boer, looked a shadow of the side that have won four European titles, and barely threatened Casillas's goal in the first half.

Madrid and Ajax were meeting in the group stage for the third successive season, with the Spaniards winning home and away in 2010 and 2011.

## Swimming: Dominant Hosszu takes World Cup medals tally to 10



DUBAI (AFP) - Katinka Hosszu continued to rule the pool as she finished the FINA World Cup 2012 series opener in Dubai with a whopping haul of eight gold medals and two bronze on Wednesday.

On the second night at Dubai's Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Sports Complex, the Hungarian -- in her first season as a professional swimmer -- collected four individual golds and later picked up another in the newly introduced mixed team 4x50m freestyle relay.

Hosszu collected a tidy sum of \$11,000 for her efforts (\$1,500 for every gold and \$500 for bronze, with no prize money for team events), and is the early favourite to win the eight-event series and the \$100,000 bonus that comes along with it.

As expected, the South

African duo of defending men's World Cup champion Chad Le Clos and two-time winner Cameron van der Burgh, both Olympic champions, won their events and will head off to Doha for next week's tournament with two golds.

Olympics 200m butterfly champion Clos added the 100m fly gold with a superb time of 49.82sec, finishing way ahead of Russia's Evgeny Korotyshekin (50.67) and American Tom Shields (50.97).

Van der Burgh, who created a controversy in London after admitting he used the illegal dolphin kick, added the men's 100m breaststroke to his earlier 50m in Dubai.

The world record-holder pipped New Zealand's Glenn Snyders by nine-tenths of a second with a time of 58.33.

Reigning World Cup women's champion, Sweden's Therese Alshammar, added the 50m freestyle title to her haul, having already won the 100m butterfly and 50m freestyle on Tuesday.

The 35-year-old was in fine form as she touched the pad with a timing of 25.56, way ahead of second-place Inge Dekker of Netherlands (26.08).

Hosszu's first gold of the day came in the 400m individual medley, where she dominated the race and finished almost five seconds ahead of team-mate Zsuzsanna Jakabos in a time of 4min 31.34sec.

She returned very soon and made it two in two for the evening in the 200m butterfly, again edging out Jakabos.

Gold number six did not take much time either and she added the 400m freestyle to her IM title with a time of 4:04.43, before he seventh and final individual gold in the 100m IM.

Amazingly, she returned again soon after and anchored Hungary to victory in the mixed relay.

The Swimming World Cup 2012, whose eight events will take place on short, 25m courses, now moves to a brand new host city, with Doha, Qatar, hosting its first ever championship from October 6-7.

A total prize fund of \$1.2 million will be distributed to the winners by the end of the series.